



Language Arts Transparencies

Grade 3

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Statements

Complete these sentences.

1. _____ rode a blue bike.
2. One student _____.
3. _____ fill the closet.
4. _____ gets cold in the winter.
5. The students _____.
6. My friend _____.
7. _____ enjoys many sports.
8. _____ is in my class at school.
9. The new student _____.
10. _____ enjoyed the story.

Student Model: Description

Waiting for the Bus

I stood on the sidewalk with my friends waiting for the school bus. It was going to be our first day at the new school building. It was a sunny fall day and the air felt cold and crisp as we stood on the hard pavement. My new backpack smelled of plastic. One student was bouncing a bright blue ball. Whack, whack, slap. Suddenly, we heard a loud, clanging bell and the screams of a siren. Around the corner came a long, red fire truck. It screeched to a stop, right in front of us! My uncle Louis poked his head through the window and said, “I just wanted to tell you kids that I just drove past your new school, and it’s all ready for you.” Then the fire truck roared away. Next, we heard a rumbling sound as a shiny yellow school bus came round the corner and stopped in front of us. The door squeaked open and we piled inside.

Editor's Marks

Common Editing Marks



delete text



insert text



move text



new paragraph

halfback

With only seconds
left in the game, he

the winning
goal. The buzzer
sounded, and the
crowd went wild.

The ^{halfback} player ran down the field. ^{With only seconds left in the game, he} scored ^{the winning goal. The buzzer sounded, and the crowd went wild.} a goal.

The halfback ran down the field. With only seconds left in the game, he scored the winning goal. The buzzer sounded, and the crowd went wild.

Writing on Demand: Narrative

Sample Prompt

Most students can think of an especially exciting weekend that they have had.

Think about what you did on an especially exciting weekend.

Now write to tell about what you did on an especially exciting weekend.

Analyze the Prompt

1. What is the topic of the prompt?
2. Which words tell how to narrow the focus of the topic?
3. Which words tell how to write about the topic?

BUDGET THE TIME

Here is a good way to use 45 minutes:

Prewrite	= 10
Draft	= 25
Revise and Proofread	= 10

Commands and Exclamations

1. Finish your homework before we eat
2. How long should we wait
3. I found a quarter
4. Please, spell your last name for me
5. That was a great party
6. Do you want to enter the contest

Student Model: Interview

This is an interview between Mike and his classmate, Deanna.

Mike: What do you do for fun? Why do you like to do what you do?

Deanna: I play soccer. I like being on a team. I like to play goalie. Being goalie is very important because without me, the other team would win every time!

Mike: What is the most interesting place you have been? What made it special to you?

Deanna: My family went to the farm where my great-great-grandmother was born. She lived there all her life. The people who live there now let us look around. We saw the barn and the pond. We saw the trees my great-great-grandmother planted.

Subjects And Predicates

Read each sentence. Underline the subject once. Underline the predicate twice.

1. The black dog jumped in the air.
2. I need a new book.
3. You own three blue pencils.
4. Janine rides her bike to school.
5. Otto plays baseball.
6. Kendra's mother buys a newspaper every day.

Student Model: Paragraph of Information

A.

Schools come in many different sizes. Some schools in rural areas have only one room. Because there are fewer people in those areas, a bigger building is not needed. Schools in crowded cities can be huge. There is one high school in Asia that has more than 20,000 students. There is a school for every community. No matter how big a town might be, there is a school that fits its size.

B.

Soccer is the most popular sport in the world. It is played in many countries throughout the world. In most of those countries, it is called football. So many people play that each year, more than 40 million soccer balls are made. In the United States, more than 7 million children from age six to eleven will play soccer. Every four years, the best players in the world play in the top tournament, the World Cup. More than one billion people watch the games on television, rooting for their favorite teams and players. More people are crazy about soccer than any other sport.

1. In the United States, more than 7 million kids from age six to eleven will play soccer.
2. Soccer is the most popular sport in the world.
3. In most of those countries, it is called football.

Subjects and Predicates

1. The López twins _____.
2. _____ chopped vegetables for dinner.
3. _____ took a trip to Colorado.
4. Dogs and cats _____.
5. My sister Sonya _____.
6. _____ kicked the soccer ball until it popped.
7. Yesterday, Mr. Monteigh _____.
8. _____ bought a new fish tank.

Student Model: Biography

Abraham Lincoln

Abraham Lincoln was born on February 12, 1809. Until he was two years old, he lived in a one-room cabin in Kentucky. Then, his family moved to a farm ten miles away. In 1816, his family moved to Indiana and later to Illinois.

His parents worked hard but did not have a lot of money. Lincoln's mother died in 1818. When Lincoln was ten, his father remarried. Lincoln's parents often could not afford to send him to school. Abraham Lincoln taught himself by reading. He learned to write using a piece of charcoal and the bark of a tree. He also asked a lot of questions.

Abe grew into a tall young man. In 1831, he began working in a store. He served as a soldier for a few months in 1832, the same year that he first ran for the Illinois General Assembly. He lost the election. He tried running his own store, and then ran again for the Assembly and was elected in 1834. That same year, Lincoln began studying to become a lawyer. He became a well-respected lawyer in Illinois.

In 1856, he helped organize the Republican Party. He was suggested as a person to run to be Vice President of the United States, but he was not chosen. In 1860, Abe Lincoln was elected the sixteenth President of the United States. He was re-elected in 1864. He died in 1865. He is remembered for leading the country during the Civil War.

Simple and Compound Sentences

1. The Golden Gate Bridge.
2. the money to build the bridge came from taxes and bonds.
3. were hired.
4. The bridge made
5. was completed in 1937
6. even when strong winds blew.

Student Model: Character Sketch

Sophia Rivera has short black hair and big brown eyes. She almost always has a big, friendly grin on her face. That is one of the first things people notice about her. Sophia is a small girl, one of the smallest in our class. But her personality is BIG when she wants it to be. When Sophia reads in class, her voice is loud and clear. Believe me, everyone pays attention when she reads. Sophia loves the color red. On the first day of school, she wore a red shirt and wanted all of us to wear red shirts, too!

Revise

Common Editing Marks



delete text



insert text



move text



new paragraph

We like to go to the park on Sundays and play catch with our friends and we like to have picnics at the park and play on the playground, too. My grandmother always brings chicken. She also brings a pie. She is a wonderful cook. We have a great time.

We like to go to the park on Sundays and play catch with our friends and we like to have picnics at the park and play on the playground, too. My grandmother always brings chicken. She also brings a pie. She is a wonderful cook. We have a great time.

We like to go to the park on Sundays. We play catch with our friends, have picnics, and play on the playground, too. My grandma brings chicken and a pie. She is a wonderful cook. We have a great time.

Writing on Demand: Expository

Sample Prompt

Everyone has a favorite game or sport.

Think about how to play your favorite game or sport.

Now write to explain how to play that game. Include the rules, where it is played, how many people are needed, and other details.

Analyze the Prompt

1. What is the topic of the prompt?
2. Which words tell how to narrow the focus of the topic?
3. Which words tell how to write about the topic?

BUDGET THE TIME

Here is a good way to use 45 minutes:

Prewrite = 10

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Revise and Proofread = 10

Common Nouns

1. We are going to have _____ for dinner tonight.
(jungle, spaghetti)
2. Jake asked his _____ to make hot dogs for dinner.
(father, aquarium)
3. The _____ crawled up the wall and out the open window. (sister, insect)
4. You can go to the _____ after you finish your homework. (park, librarian)
5. Do not forget to bring your _____ to baseball practice.
(helmet, kitchen)
6. The _____ solved the mystery of the missing socks.
(piano, detective)

Student Model: How-To

Make a Hot Air Balloon

Materials needed:

- flour
- water
- balloon
- newspaper strips
- paint
- string
- paper cup

You can make your own miniature hot air balloon out of papier-maché. First, blow up the balloon. Next, mix one cup of flour with one cup of water. Dip the newspaper strips into the flour paste. Then, cover the balloon with the wet strips of newspaper. Let it dry for a day or two. When the papier-maché is completely dry, pop the balloon. Then, paint the papier-maché to look like a hot air balloon. Tie the paper cup to the balloon to make the basket. Finally, attach a string to the top of the balloon, hang it in your room, and imagine flying through the sky in a beautiful balloon!

Title and Place Abbreviations

1. Mrs. Brown lives in Orlando.
2. The mayor's office is on Main St.
3. The school on Rose Pl. is near my house.
4. I asked Mr. Sanchez for help with my homework.
5. My full name is Anthony James Flynn, Jr.
6. Underhill Rd. goes near Beartown Mountain.
7. My favorite teacher is Ms. Kim.
8. Miss Lu moved to Benton Ave.

Student Model: Paragraph That Describes

The Leaping Gray Whale

We waited for the gray whale to come to the surface. Finally it rose out of the blue-green water, and the sunlight flashed on the whale's enormous, bumpy back. It was crusted with hundreds of barnacles. We were close enough to see the creature's round, friendly eye. A gushing stream of water shot from its blowhole. Then the whale raised its huge tail and slapped it on the water with an ear-splitting crash. Finally, the whale sank slowly into the sea.

Singular and Plural Nouns

Sort these nouns.

desk	apples	bedroom	brother	plates
grandmother	downtown	beach	children	shirt

People

Places

Things

Student Model: Summary

It is not possible to make gold because it is an element. There are ninety-two elements in the world, and they can be broken into tiny pieces, called atoms. When two or more atoms are joined, they create a molecule. When two or more elements are joined, they form a compound. The study of elements, atoms, and molecules is called chemistry.

Possessive Nouns

1. The dog's ball rolled underneath the bushes.
2. We went to our cousin's basketball game.
3. Josiah left his grandma's house on Tuesday.
4. To get to the playground, walk past Eli's house.
5. When the girl's package came, she was happy.
6. The zookeeper washed the elephant's trunk.
7. I thought that character's actions were strange.
8. My aunt's painting is beautiful.

Student Model: Paragraph That Compares

Even though they are a year apart in age, the Melendez brothers are alike in so many ways that they could be twins. First of all, they look alike. Both boys have short, dark brown hair, big brown eyes, and are quite tall. Maybe their height is why they both are so good at basketball. They also like the same clothes and often dress alike. They even wear each other's shirts! Both boys are good students, but they are even better musicians. They play together in the school band. The brothers are the same way about food. Hamburgers are their number one choice, and pizza comes in a close second. These two brothers are so much alike that it is easy to understand why people get them confused!

Friendly Letter

Heading

Greeting

Body

Closing

Signature

Revise

Common Editing Marks



delete text



insert text



new paragraph

We got a new dog. His name is Sam. His fur is tan. He has black and white spots.

puppy and decided
to name him

has the softest tan
fur, with big

~~We got a new dog. His name is Sam. His fur is tan. He~~
~~has black and white spots.~~

patches on his back.

We got a new puppy and decided to name him Sam. He has the softest tan fur around his face, with big black and white patches on his back.

Singular and Plural Pronouns

1. Mr. and Mrs. Valdez hurried so they would be on time.
2. Charlie wished he could hit a home run.
3. Tom and Gianna said, “We had a picnic at the park.”
4. Lisa’s friends waited for her to join them.
5. I asked Sam to go with me to the store.
6. Marcus wrote a letter and mailed it.

Student Model: Realistic Story

Amy had never written a letter on paper. She always sent e-mail or instant messages instead. She even sent thank-you notes for birthday presents and invitations for parties by e-mail. “I don’t like to write letters,” she said stubbornly. “It takes too long!”

So the day a letter came for her, she was very surprised. She could not imagine whom it was from. Everyone she knew was on her e-mail buddy list. Amy looked at the envelope. The postmark said Anchorage, Alaska.

“I don’t know anyone in Alaska!” Amy said to her mother. “Who could be sending this to me?”

Subject Pronouns

1. Do you know Tami Rodriguez?
2. I read two books last month.
3. We all went to visit her.
4. He disagreed with Cami.
5. They always go to Miami for vacation.
6. "Yes, it is exciting," Matti answered.

Student Model: Explanation

It is easy to enjoy fresh vegetables from your own garden. First, you need a plot of ground. Clear the ground of weeds, dig the soil, and then rake it smooth. Choose the vegetables you would like to grow, and then buy seeds. Plant the seeds in a row and cover them with soil. Then water them gently. Keep the soil moist and hope the sun shines. In a few days, you will see tiny green shoots. Care for your plants by keeping them watered. Pull out some plants so the ones left are not crowded. In a few weeks, you will enjoy fresh vegetables picked from your own garden!

Pronoun-Antecedent Agreement

1. When the hole has water in it, you can sometimes see a tree frog there.
2. After the grubs become beetles, they eat their way out of the chambers.
3. A bear digs at the tree until it finds insects to eat.
4. Many woodpeckers visit the oak tree to eat, and they have made the hole even bigger.
5. The young boy watched the bluebird until he saw the babies.

Student Model: Cause-and-Effect Paragraph

My grade on this week's spelling test was my best ever! Because I studied my spelling words every day, I got an A on my test. On Monday and Tuesday, I wrote each of the words ten times. On Wednesday, I made a word search with the words. On Thursday, I asked my mom to give me a practice test. This showed me that if I study my spelling words every day, then I will do well on Friday's test.

Adjectives

Part A

dark

big

yellow

charming

large

Part B

1. Red Riding Hood lived beside the _____ woods.
2. Granny lived in a _____ house.
3. Suddenly a _____ wolf appeared.
4. The wolf had _____ manners.
5. "Granny, what _____ eyes you have," said Red Riding Hood.

Student Model: Character Sketch

Mia

Mia is my best friend. She has straight black hair and sparkling black eyes. She is taller than my friend Nina, but not as tall as me. She laughs and giggles a lot.

Mia is always smiling and talks very fast. Sometimes she talks so fast that I can't understand what she is saying! When I tell her to talk more slowly, she makes a funny face. She loves to tell jokes. The worse a joke is, the better Mia likes it! Mia always asks new students or students who are sitting alone in the lunchroom to sit with her. She also loves to sing and has a beautiful voice.

Mia is very talented. She is a good friend who likes to make other people happy. She is kind and thoughtful. I hope we can be best friends forever.

Proofreading for Proper Nouns

Common Editing Marks

≡

capitalize

/

lowercase

After the play, aunt debbie invited everyone to her house for
dessert. She thought henry did a great job reciting the poem. She
has always been henry's favorite ~~A~~unt.

After the play, Aunt Debbie invited everyone to her house
for dessert. She thought Henry did a great job reciting the
poem. She has always been Henry's favorite aunt.

Writing on Demand: Narrative

Sample Prompt

You have gotten lost in a strange place and need to find your way back home.

Think about what it would be like to be lost and meet interesting characters as you try to find your way home.

Now write a story about the day you were lost.

Analyze the Prompt

1. What is the topic of the prompt?
2. Which words tell how to narrow the focus of the topic?
3. Which words tell how to write about the topic?

BUDGET THE TIME

Here is a good way to use 45 minutes:

Prewrite	= 10
Draft	= 25
Revise and Proofread	= 10

Suffix *-er*

Part A

1. A caterpillar is longer than an inch worm.
2. Is the eagle-shaped totem pole taller than the bear-shaped one?
3. The teacher's pencil is sharper than mine.
4. The chanting was louder than the drumming.
5. A carving of a swan might be prettier than a spider.
6. I am probably hungrier than you today.

Part B

1. creepy
2. scary

Student Model: Play Scene

Cast of Characters

Taylor

Monique

Logan

Chirpy, a parrot

Setting: *Afternoon at the local park. It is summertime, and Henrietta, Monique, and Logan are playing on a slide. As they play, a yellow bird flies towards them and lands on top of the slide.*

TAYLOR: Look, you guys! Look at where the bird landed.

MONIQUE (*chuckling*): Wow. I've never seen such a yellow bird in all of my life. It looks like sunshine on a summer day.

LOGAN: I bet it's someone's pet. (*Looking around the playground with worry.*) But I don't know whose. We should probably see if we can catch it.

Articles

1. John took a bus to visit his aunt and uncle.
2. His uncle plays the saxophone.
3. John's uncle is a farmer.
4. John will make the birthday cake.
5. His aunt and uncle live in an old farmhouse.

Student Model: Story Dialogue

More than anything, Amelia Earhart wished she could fly. One day, she got the chance to go up in an airplane with a pilot named Frank Hawks. “Oh, Frank,” said Amelia, once they were a couple hundred feet off the ground. “This is the best day of my life!”

“You’re brave, that’s for sure!” said Frank.

“I’m not afraid of anything,” said Amelia. “Take me higher!”

“The sky’s the limit,” said Frank, and he made the plane climb higher through the clouds.

“I bet I can touch the stars!” said Amelia. “It’s so beautiful!” This was the ride that changed Amelia’s life. At that moment, she knew she would one day make her wish to become a pilot come true.

Action Verbs

1. Luck catches his head in a piece of plastic.
2. A girl saw that the bird was stuck and freed him.
3. Five hundred thousand cranes called.
4. Luck remembered the girl.
5. Luck sees the windmill.
6. The girl scared Luck away from the plastic.

Student Model: Folktale

Ted Cobb made shoes. He was on his way to the king's court to sell his shoes. Suddenly, he came across a woman sitting next to the path. She was trying to get one of her shoes off.

"What is the matter, miss?" Ted said.

"There is a rock in my shoe, and it hurts."

Ted saw that her shoe had a hole in it. He gave her a new pair.

"Thank you," the woman said. "I'll never forget what you did."

Ted walked on. He found a man with both feet stuck in mud. Ted undid the man's boots and pulled him away. Now the man was barefoot, so Ted gave him a pair of shoes.

"I'll never forget what you did," the man said.

Later, Ted came to a boy and a girl. They had no shoes.

"What happened to your shoes?" Ted asked.

"Our shoes are too small," the boy said.

Ted pulled out of his bag two pairs that fit perfectly.

"We will never forget how you helped us," they said.

Ted had a river to cross before he got to the king's court. He found a log across the river. His bag was still heavy and hard to balance. As he walked across the log, the wind blew. To stop himself from falling, he tossed the bag of shoes into the air. The bag got stuck in a tree.

Soon, the man, the woman, the boy, and the girl came down the path. They saw Ted staring up into the tree.

"What happened to your bag of shoes?" asked the woman.

Ted told them what happened. The man and woman helped the boy and the girl climb the tree. The boy held the girl's hand as she untangled the bag. It dropped right at Ted's feet.

"Thank you," he said. "I'll never forget how you helped me."

The Verb *Be*

Part A

1. Both girls are good ice skaters.
2. The road was slippery after the snowstorm.
3. The seals were curious about the swimmers.
4. A blue whale is a huge animal.
5. She was almost ten years old.

Part B

1. I _____ cold this morning. (was, were)
2. The footprints in the snow _____ small.
(was, were)
3. Sled dogs _____ strong and smart. (is, are)
4. My wool hat _____ warm. (is, are)
5. Hot chocolate _____ delicious. (were, is)

Student Model: Explanation

Snow Sculptures

A favorite winter activity for many people is building a snow sculpture. First, you need snow. It is best to build after a heavy snowfall, but a small sculpture can be built after even a little snow. Second, you need imagination. Many people build a traditional snow person with two snowballs for the body and one for the head. But other people build figures that could have stepped from a fantasy story, animals that look ready to leap, and castles or forts of snow. After the sculpture is built, many people add props, such as clothing and stones for eyes. Some people add color by mixing food coloring with water and putting it in spray bottles. Snow sculptures do not last long. Another snowfall will cover them, or they will melt as the temperature rises.

Elaboration

Common Editing Marks



delete text



insert text

Our family does stuff together on the weekends. We like to be outside. We have fun.

enjoys spending time

love being

Our family ~~does stuff~~ together on the weekends. We ~~like to be~~ outside. ~~We have fun.~~

But no matter what we do, we always have fun.

and going skating, hiking, and camping. Sometimes we even spend the weekend at the beach, swimming and collecting seashells.

Our family enjoys spending time together on the weekends. We love being outside and go skating, hiking, and camping. Sometimes we even spend the weekend at the beach, swimming and collecting seashells. But no matter what we do, we always have fun.

Writing on Demand: Explanation

Sample Prompt

Most students have chores to do at home.

Think about why it is important to help out at home.

Now write to explain why it is important to help out at home.

Analyze the Prompt

1. What is the topic of the prompt?
2. Which words tell how to narrow the focus of the topic?
3. Which words tell how to write about the topic?

BUDGET THE TIME

Here is a good way to use 45 minutes:

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Main and Helping Verbs

1. James will perform in the play this Saturday.
2. He has worked very hard.
3. His family is going to the play.
4. They are planning a party for James.
5. They have invited all of James's friends.

Student Model: Summary

The article “Disaster in Space” tells about *Apollo 13*. The spacecraft was going to the moon in April 1970. There were three astronauts on it. For two days, the trip went smoothly. Suddenly, there was a loud boom. An oxygen tank had exploded.

Because of the explosion, the spacecraft lost a lot of power. The spacecraft also did not have much fuel. The astronauts came up with a new plan. They used the fuel they had left to fly back toward Earth. Then, the crew separated the damaged tank from the rest of the spacecraft.

Finally, the spacecraft landed in the ocean. All the astronauts were safe.

Present-Tense Verbs

1. Ping filled a flowerpot with rich soil.
2. The children hope to have the best plant.
3. They will show their plants to the Emperor.
4. The Emperor looked at all of the flowers.
5. All of the flowers are beautiful.
6. Ping grew many beautiful flowers before.
7. “I admire Ping’s great courage.”
8. Ping will be the new Emperor.

Student Model: Fantasy

“Mr. Donkey’s cart has rolled to the bottom of the hill and smashed. Can you help him drag it out of the ditch?” Mrs. Goat called to Mr. Goat as she rushed into the house.

When Mr. Goat reached the top of the hill, he saw Mr. Donkey and many other townspeople pulling the cart out of a ditch. He rushed down the hill. Mr. Goat, Mr. Donkey, and the townspeople pulled out the cart and dragged it to the repair shop.

When they arrived at the repair shop, Mr. Donkey said, “Thank you so much. When any of you has trouble, please let me help you.”

Verb Tenses

1. Madeleine loves her little brother.
2. Laksh wanted a pony.
3. We carried all of the boxes into the attic.
4. Tomorrow Rico will bake a cake.
5. Noel runs five laps around the track every day.
6. Chloe will work in the garden next week.
7. Zach borrowed his dad's camera.

Student Model: Paragraph That Persuades

The Best Pet

Dogs and cats make good pets, but hamsters are the best indoor pet of all. Hamsters are easy to care for. They are not picky eaters. You can give them a meal of fruits, vegetables, oats, or grains, and they will eat it. Hamsters are also fun to watch. They like to play in wheels or plastic balls, and they will go through a maze if you put some food at the end of it. Finally, they are perfect pets for children. Hamsters have very soft fur and are gentle animals. They do not take up much space and do not need much more than food, water, and a place to sleep. As you can see, hamsters have a lot of great qualities. If you are looking for a gentle pet that is easy to care for, a hamster is just right!

Past Tense

1. Angelica (runned/ran) all the way to Kwame's house.
2. Patrick's mother (drove, walked) to the shopping mall.
3. Mei (brought/carried) a present to her grandmother.
4. He (believed/thought) the movie was exciting.
5. The fruit truck (came/rolled) down the street.
6. The ant (swallowed/ate) a big piece of bread.
7. The puppy (found/located) a hole in the yard.
8. She (ignored/heard) noises from the barn.

Student Model: Directions

How To Give Your Dog a Bath

1. First, brush your dog's fur. Take out any knots before bath time.
2. Next, fill the bathtub with warm water. Near the bathtub, place a large cup or bowl, a warm towel, and a bottle of shampoo for dogs.
3. Put your dog into the bathtub. Go slowly if your pet is nervous about the water.
4. Use the cup or bowl to pour water gently over your dog's body.
5. Lather your dog's fur for several minutes with the dog shampoo. Let the shampoo soak in before washing it off. Do not forget to wash your dog's paws, which can get very dirty.
6. Wash off the shampoo using the cup or bowl. Then gently squeeze your dog's coat to get rid of excess water.
7. Take your dog out of the bathtub and wrap him or her in a warm towel.
8. Dry your dog with a towel.

Revise

Common Editing Marks



delete text



insert text



move text



new paragraph

form of camouflage
helps protect them
from predators and

Some ocean fish are light colored on the bottom and darker on the top.

This is called “counter shading.” It keeps them safe.

Fish below them look up to see the light color blending with the sunlight on the surface of the water. Predators above them look down. The dark color helps the fish blend in with the shadows in the ocean.

Some ocean fish are light colored on the bottom and darker on the top. This form of camouflage helps protect them from predators and is called “counter shading.” Fish below them look up to see the light color blending with the sunlight on the surface of the water. Predators above them look down. The dark color helps the fish blend in with the shadows in the ocean.

Writing on Demand: Expository

Sample Prompt

You have probably seen many types of insects.

Think about what insect you find the most interesting.

Now write to explain why you think your chosen insect is most interesting.

Analyze the Prompt

1. What is the topic of the prompt?
2. Which words tell how to narrow the focus of the topic?
3. Which words tell how to write about the topic?

BUDGET THE TIME

Here is a good way to use 45 minutes:

Prewrite = 10

Draft = 25

Revise and Proofread = 10

Adverbs

1. Joe _____ introduced his parents.
2. Chris yelled _____ out the window.
3. We played the game _____.
4. We _____ said goodbye.
5. The class worked _____.
6. Max did his homework _____ today.
7. Tina read the book _____ and _____.
8. Sarah hit the baseball _____.

Student Model: Explanation

How to Make Jelly Toast

It is easy to make toast and jelly. First, gather what you will need. That will be a toaster, a plate, a spoon, your favorite flavor of jelly, and one slice of bread. (You might want to try wheat bread. It is better for you, and it tastes better, too!)

Set the toaster for how dark you want the toast—light, medium, or dark. Then put your slice of bread in the toaster and start it.

While you are waiting for the toast, open the jelly jar. Once the toast is ready, carefully put it onto your plate. Remember, toast is hot! You might need to use a napkin to handle it. Then use your spoon to take jelly from the jar and put it onto your toast. Spread it with the back of the spoon.

Finally, sit down and eat your toast. Do not forget to clean up your crumbs and put everything away once you are finished (unless you want to make another piece)!

Contractions

1. They have done a lot of preparation.
They've done a lot of preparation.
2. She is really nervous about the science fair.
3. You are going to win first prize.
4. It is the most exciting project!
5. We had done everything we could to win the game.

Student Model: Description

Happy “Holi” Day!

Holi is a big festival in India to celebrate the beginning of spring.

Last spring, I went to India for the first time to visit my cousins and to celebrate Holi. I had not participated in Holi before. I found out that everyone in the community joins in, and the celebration lasts several days.

When we arrived at my cousins’ home town, everyone was already dancing and singing. My favorite day of Holi, though, was the carnival of colors.

That day, we all went outside and put colored powder on each other. In no time at all, we looked like a human rainbow. The powders were made of herbs that smelled nice. That made it even better. Then someone began to throw colored water! We filled water balloons and used special sprinklers to get each other wet with color. We shouted, “Bura Na Mano...Holi Hai!” which means, “Don’t be mad...it’s Holi!”

Celebrating Holi with my cousins was the best holiday I ever had. I am going to celebrate it next spring—right in my own backyard. As my cousins said, “Holi is for everyone!”

Capitalization

1. star charts will help you identify stars.
2. Our galaxy, the milky way, gets its light from stars.
3. The meteor shower called the geminids happens every november.
4. robert burnham is the author of a book about comets.
5. jupiter, venus, mars, and saturn are easier to see in the night sky than the other planets.
6. the Perseids, a meteor shower, occurs on earth on the twelfth day of august.

Student Model: Paragraph That Contrasts

Asteroids and comets have some things in common, and people often have trouble knowing which is which. There are several differences, however, that will help you tell apart these two bodies in space. First, these objects are not made of the same materials. Asteroids are made of rocks and metals, while comets consist of ice and dust. Next, although both asteroids and comets orbit the sun, the location of their orbits is different. Asteroids usually are found in the Asteroid Belt, which is between Jupiter and Mars. On the other hand, most comets orbit far from this, moving through the outermost and coldest parts of the solar system. Finally, it should be no surprise that asteroids and comets have different appearances and opportunities for sightings. Asteroids do not form tails and usually cannot be seen by the eye. Comets, however, may form tails and sometimes can be seen when they pass closer to the sun. Knowing these simple facts can help you know the differences between comets and asteroids.